



**Sunday Morning Worship**  
**October 3, 2021**

# Welcome to City Reformed Presbyterian Church

We are glad to have you join us for worship today. If you would like more information, please contact us at [office@cityreformed.org](mailto:office@cityreformed.org) or visit our website: [cityreformed.org](http://cityreformed.org).

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## Reflections

The law of your mouth is better to me than thousands of gold and silver pieces.

- Psalm 119:72

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## About Us

### Sunday Morning Worship Service

10:15AM  
Winchester Thurston Auditorium  
5059 Ellsworth Ave  
Pittsburgh PA, 15213

LIVESTREAM: [tinyurl.com/CRPCLive](http://tinyurl.com/CRPCLive)

### Sunday Evening Service

5:30PM  
Greenfield Chapel  
3929 Coleman Street  
Pittsburgh PA, 15207

### Church Office

3929 Coleman St.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15207  
412-720-7014  
[office@cityreformed.org](mailto:office@cityreformed.org)  
[cityreformed.org](http://cityreformed.org)

### Donations

Online: Church Center App (Give)  
OR [cityreformed.org/give](http://cityreformed.org/give)  
Mail: Church Office address above "Attn:  
Bookkeeper" (please make checks  
payable to City Reformed Presbyterian  
Church)

### Church Center App:



# Worship Service

City Reformed Presbyterian Church

Sunday Morning Worship – October 3, 2021

Presider: Reverend John McCombs

## Call to Worship: Psalm 63:1-8

*Please stand for the Call to Worship if you are able.*

Leader O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

People **So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory.**

Leader Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.

People **So I will bless you as long as I live; in your name I will lift up my hands.**

Leader My soul will be satisfied as with fat and rich food, and my mouth will praise you with joyful lips, when I remember you upon my bed, and meditate on you in the watches of the night;

People **For you have been my help, and in the shadow of your wings I will sing for joy. My soul clings to you; your right hand upholds me.**

## Prayer of Invocation

## Joyful Joyful We Adore You

*(Words: Henry van Dyke 1907 Music: Ludwig van Beethoven 1824)*

Joyful joyful we adore You  
God of glory Lord of love  
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before You  
Op'ning to the sun above  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness  
Drive the dark of doubt away  
Giver of immortal gladness  
Fill us with the light of day

All Your works with joy surround You  
Earth and heav'n reflect Your rays  
Stars and angels sing around You  
Center of unbroken praise  
Field and forest vale and mountain  
Flow'ry meadow flashing sea  
Chanting bird and flowing fountain  
Praising You eternally

You are giving and forgiving  
Ever blessing ever blest  
Well-spring of the joy of living  
Ocean-depth of happy rest  
Loving Father, Christ our Brother  
May Your Spirit in us shine  
Teach us how to love each other  
Lift us to Your joy divine

Mortals join the mighty chorus  
With the morning stars begin  
God's own love is reigning o'er us  
Humble love binds all in Him  
Christ we echo ever singing  
Victors in the midst of strife  
Joyful music we are bringing  
In the triumph song of life

## **O God of Our Salvation**

*(Michael Bleecker and Matt Boswell 2009)*

O God of our salvation  
Who reigns upon the throne  
The sov'reign Father great is He  
From Whom all blessings flow

*O God of our salvation  
From Whom redemption comes  
O Father Son and Spirit  
The blessed Three in One*

Behold the Son our Savior  
Who for our sin was slain  
The Christ Who purchased with His blood  
The wretched souls of men

O God the Holy Spirit  
Revealing deity  
The fount of life and love divine  
Throughout eternity

## **Call to Confession: I Peter 1:13-16**

[Prepare] your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, since it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy."

## **Prayer of Confession**

Father, you sent Jesus to give freedom to the captives. We confess that our natural state is to live in captivity. We are naturally enslaved to our own desires and the approval of others. Christ has given us a new calling, a new identity and new righteousness. But, still we find ourselves returning to serve sin. We pray that the freedom of Christ would increasingly rule in our lives. May we be free to live for your glory in all things. Help us to see that all that we do and say is before your face. Help us to live in ways that are fitting for people who have been ransomed by the precious blood of Jesus. Amen.

## **Silent Confession**

### **Assurance of Pardon: I Peter 1:18-19**

[Know] that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot.

## **Corporate Prayer**

## **Song of Renewal**

*We consider tithes & offering as an act of worship within the corporate family of Christ. Please direct giving online or via mail ([Cityreformed.org/give](http://Cityreformed.org/give); 3929 Coleman St., 15207).*

## What Wondrous Love Is This

*(Words: Anonymous Music: American Folk Southern Harmony)*

What wondrous love is this  
O my soul O my soul  
What wondrous love is this O my soul  
What wondrous love is this  
That caused the Lord of bliss  
To bear the dreadful curse  
For my soul for my soul  
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul

When I was sinking down  
Sinking down sinking down  
When I was sinking down sinking down  
When I was sinking down  
Beneath God's righteous frown  
Christ laid aside His crown  
For my soul for my soul  
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul

To God and to the Lamb  
I will sing I will sing  
To God and to the Lamb I will sing  
To God and to the Lamb  
Who is the Great I Am  
While millions join the theme  
I will sing I will sing  
While millions join the theme I will sing

And when from death I'm free  
I'll sing on I'll sing on  
And when from death I'm free I'll sing on  
And when from death I'm free  
I'll sing and joyful be  
And through eternity  
I'll sing on I'll sing on  
And through eternity I'll sing on

# Pastoral Prayer

*At this time, children ages 4-7 are invited to continue their worship at Children's Church. Parents please have your children meet the teachers at the back of the sanctuary and pick them up after the sermon from Children's Church.*

## **Sermon: Matthew 13:44-51**

### **The Gospel of Matthew, Part 3: Christ and His Kingdom "The Pearl of Greatest Price"**

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- Reverend Derek Bates

**T**he kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

<sup>45</sup>“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, <sup>46</sup>who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

<sup>47</sup>“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. <sup>48</sup>When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into containers but threw away the bad. <sup>49</sup>So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous <sup>50</sup>and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

<sup>51</sup>“Have you understood all these things?” They said to him, “Yes.” <sup>52</sup>And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house, who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

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**Leader** This is the Word of the Lord.

**People** Thanks be to God.



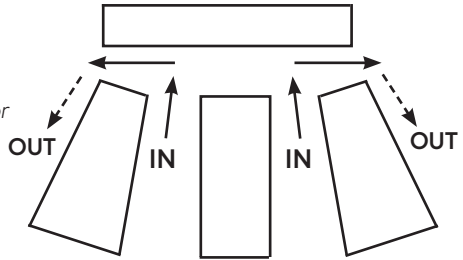


# Communion

City Reformed Church invites all baptized Christians who are willing to forsake their sins and trust Christ alone for salvation, and who are members of congregations which proclaim the gospel, to receive Holy Communion with us. Parents with non-communicating children are encouraged to bring their children forward during communion. The elders will lay a hand on their head and briefly pray for them as they serve you.

Communion will be served by elders to several people at a time at the front of the Church. When you are ready, please proceed up using either of the two interior aisles. At the ushers' guidance, you may move forward to receive the elements as a group.

Communion is served with wine and with grape juice. The wine is placed in the two outer circles of the communion tray, and the grape juice is placed in the inner circle. Because Jesus used wine during the first communion service, we believe using real wine is beneficial. However, participants are welcome to choose. There is also gluten-free bread available on each plate.



# Songs of Communion

## Laden with Guilt

*(Music: Sandra McCracken 2001 Words: Isaac Watts 1766)*

Laden with guilt and full of fears,  
I fly to thee my Lord.  
And not a glimpse of hope appears,  
But in thy written word  
The volumes of my Father's grace,  
Does all my griefs assuage.  
Here I behold my Savior's face,  
In every page.

This is the field where hidden lies  
The pearl of price unknown.  
That merchant is divinely wise,  
Who makes the pearl his own.  
Here consecrated water flows,  
To quench my thirst of sin;  
Here the fair tree of knowledge grows,  
No danger dwells within.

This is the judge that ends the strife,  
Where wit and reason fail.  
My guide to everlasting life,  
Through all this gloomy vale.  
Oh may thy counsels, mighty God,  
My roving feet command,  
Nor I forsake the happy road  
That leads to thy right hand.

## Psalm 16 | Faces of the Saints

*(Daniel Snoke & Naaman Wood 2019)*

Preserve me God in you I take my refuge  
I have no good without your daily presence  
You are my hope my portion and my substance  
And you are making me a pleasant home

*I see eternity in faces of the saints  
And you will not abandon us to hopelessness and death  
For we are resurrected with the presence of your breath  
Your full delight you'll give to those who wait  
Your full delight you give forevermore*

I set the LORD in ev'ry way before me  
And in the night my heart proclaims your counsel  
When you are near then I will not be shaken  
My heart, my mind, and body sing with joy

Those who run to other gods will suffer  
I will not follow in their greedy worship  
No other name but yours is my devotion  
I bless the LORD again I bless the LORD  
I bless the LORD again I bless the LORD

## **Be Thou My Vision**

*(Translation: Mary Elizabeth Byrne 1905 Music: Slane)*

Be thou my vision O Lord of my heart  
Naught be all else to me save that thou art  
Thou my best thought by day or by night  
Waking or sleeping thy presence my light

Be thou my wisdom and thou my true word  
I ever with thee and thou with me Lord  
Thou my great Father I thy true son  
Thou in me dwelling and with thee one

Riches I heed not nor man's empty praise  
Thou mine inheritance, now and always  
Thou and thou only first in my heart  
High King of Heaven my treasure thou art

High King of Heaven my victory won  
May I reach heaven's joys O bright heaven's Sun  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall  
Still be my vision O Ruler of All

## **Doxology**

*(Words: Thomas Ken 1674 Music: Louis Bourgeois 1510)*

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

(repeat)

Amen

## **Prayer**

## **Announcements**

## **Benediction**

## Upcoming Events

[www.cityreformed.org/events](http://www.cityreformed.org/events)

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| <p><b>Youth Group TODAY</b><br/>12:30-2:30PM<br/>Schenley Park Oval<br/>Shelter- Greenfield chapel<br/>rain location</p>         | <p>If you're interested in frisbee golf, kicking around a soccer ball, or going for a walk, bring what you'll need, and we look forward to going with you! Lunch provided, so bring your appetite too!<br/>Contact Pastor John (<a href="mailto:John@cityreformed.org">John@cityreformed.org</a>) or Zachary (<a href="mailto:Zachary@cityreformed.org">Zachary@cityreformed.org</a>)</p> |
| <p><b>Seminar: Carl Ellis</b><br/>Saturday 10/16<br/>3929 Coleman St.</p>  | <p>Come hear a seminar from Dr. Carl Ellis Biblical Interaction with Critical Race Theory.<br/>Livestream options available.<br/>Contact: <a href="mailto:John@cityreformed.org">John@cityreformed.org</a></p>  |
| <p><b>Pittsburgh Presbytery Women's Ministry Grief Seminar 10/9 @ 10AM</b><br/>1228 Gill Hall Road<br/>Jefferson Hills</p>       | <p>Jessica Bovard, a licensed counselor, will share about grief and supporting those who are grieving. Registration is free. RSVP link can be found in the weekly email.<br/>Contact <a href="mailto:jamyebeth@gmail.com">jamyebeth@gmail.com</a> for questions</p>   |
| <p><b>Save the Date: Women's Discipleship Mentor Brunch 10/24</b></p>  | <p>The Women's Discipleship Committee would like to invite women of all ages to save the date for the annual mentor lunch to be held Sunday, October 24 immediately following the morning worship service. More details to follow soon!<br/>Contact <a href="mailto:Sandy@cityreformed.org">Sandy@cityreformed.org</a></p>  |
| <p><b>Pittsburgh Presbytery Women's Conference</b><br/>11/5 and 11/6<br/>Calvin Presbyterian Church,<br/>North Huntingdon PA</p> | <p>PCA National Trainer Chandra Oliver speaking on Thinking Biblically and Living Covenantally. This event is both in-person and virtual livestream. Fliers are on the table in the foyer for information to register and purchase tickets.<br/><b>Registration closes 10/31.</b><br/>Contact Callie: <a href="mailto:callie.miller@ruf.org">callie.miller@ruf.org</a></p>                |

## Regular Events

[www.cityreformed.org/events](http://www.cityreformed.org/events)

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| <p><b>Wednesday Prayer Meetings</b><br/>Wednesdays 8:30- 9:30 AM</p> | <p>Join our staff as they pray for our church. Wednesday weekly prayer is held on Zoom at: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/crpcwednesdayprayer">https://tinyurl.com/crpcwednesdayprayer</a></p>  |
| <p><b>Global Missions Prayer</b><br/>Fridays @ 6:30- 7 AM</p>        | <p>Please consider praying with us for our mission partners on Friday mornings. Zoom link: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/crpcglobalprayer">https://tinyurl.com/crpcglobalprayer</a><br/>Contact <a href="mailto:zachary@cityreformed.org">zachary@cityreformed.org</a> for questions</p> |

# Groups

**College Students** please refer to campus ministry contacts below:

- CCO at CMU: Nameun Cho (ncho@ccojubilee.org)
- CCO at PPU: Katelyn Spallinger (kspallinger@ccojubilee.org)
- RUF at Pitt: Derek Bates (dbates@ruf.org), Callie Miller (callie.miller@ruf.org)
- [cityreformed.org/collegestudents](http://cityreformed.org/collegestudents)

**Specialty Groups** meet in particular areas of interest for Bible study, fellowship, learning, and service. For a listing of current groups, please refer to:

- **Agora Forum- Alex Main** ([amain8511@gmail.com](mailto:amain8511@gmail.com))
- **Men's New Hope** ([Joseph@cityreformed.org](mailto:Joseph@cityreformed.org))
- **Mommies' Group** ([Sandy@cityreformed.org](mailto:Sandy@cityreformed.org))
- **Wednesday Morning Prayer** ([Zachary@cityreformed.org](mailto:Zachary@cityreformed.org))
- **Men's Discipleship Committee** ([mdc@cityreformed.org](mailto:mdc@cityreformed.org))- **MENTORS NEEDED!**

# Contact

**Pastors:** [Joseph@cityreformed.org](mailto:Joseph@cityreformed.org).

**Men's Discipleship Committee:** [mdc@cityreformed.org](mailto:mdc@cityreformed.org)

**Women's Discipleship Committee:** [Sandy@cityreformed.org](mailto:Sandy@cityreformed.org)

**Young Adult Women's Fellowship:** [Katelyn@cityreformed.org](mailto:Katelyn@cityreformed.org)

Our church staff is reevaluating our regular communications and would like your input! You can find our communication survey at:

[tinyurl.com/crppcommunicationfeedback](http://tinyurl.com/crppcommunicationfeedback)

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All scripture verses are the English Standard Version (ESV), unless otherwise noted.

# Community Groups

**Community Groups** meet for Bible study, fellowship, and service, and are some of the best opportunities to connect with church life - always open for visitors throughout the year. Please contact Pastor Joseph Bianco (joseph@cityreformed.org) with any questions, and for a listing of current groups, refer to:

[www.cityreformed.org/community-groups](http://www.cityreformed.org/community-groups)

## Sunday

Fox Chapel\*- Watson Barker

North Hills\*\*- David Bacon

## Tuesday

Forest Hills\*- Adam Schwab

Northside- Joe Benscoter & Nathan Schartner

Morningside\*- Jeff Winkler

## Wednesday

Near East Suburban- Jim Partridge

Regent Square- David Snoke

Baldwin/Greenfield\*- Joseph Bianco

East Suburban- Joe Stehle

West End\*- Jonathan Dodd

## Thursday

Greenfield/ North Oakland- Ben Chidester

\*Childcare provided

\*\* Kid's play area available